

Election/Restrictions

1. This application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. These species are deemed to lack unity of invention because they are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

The species are as follows:

Species 1: Figures 1a-b – 2a-b

Species 2: Figure 2c

Species 3: Figures 3a-b

Species 4: Figures 4a-b

Species 5: Figure 5

Species 6: Figure 6

Species 7: Figures 7a-h – 8a-c

Species 8: Figures 9a-c – 10a-c

Species 9: Figures 11a-d – 12

Species 10: Figures 13a-d

Species 11: Figures 14a-b

Species 12: Figures 15a-b – 18

Species 13: Figures 19a-c – 20

Species 14: Figures 21a-c

Species 15: Figures 22a-b

Species 16: Figures 23a-c – 24a-b

Species 17: Figures 25a-b - 28

Applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single species to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The reply must also identify the claims readable on the elected species, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered non-responsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

2. The claims are deemed to correspond to the species listed above in the following manner:

Species 1: Claims 1, 2, and 6

Species 2: Claims 1-4, and 6

Species 3: Claims 1, 2, and 6

Species 4: Claims 1, 2, and 6

Species 5: Claims 1 and 7

Species 6: Claims 1 and 7

Species 7: Claims 1, 5, 6, and 8-17

Species 8: Claims 1, 5, 6, and 8-22

Species 9: Claims 1, 5, 6, and 8-11

Species 10: Claims 12-13 and 23-24

Species 11: Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-13, and 25-26

Species 12: Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-13, and 27-30

Species 13: Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-13, 27-29, and 31-34

Species 14: Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-13, 27-29, and 35-36

Species 15: Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-13, 27-29, and 37-38

Species 16: Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-16, 22 and 39-40

Species 17: Claims 1, 5, 6, 12-13, 27-29, and 41-42

3. The species listed above do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The only common technical feature common to the species is a footrest platform that is tiltable to both sides of the platform's longitudinal axis. However, since this feature is known in the art, there exists a lack of unity *a posteriori*, since the tiltable platform is not the applicant's contribution over the prior art. US Patent 5,924,710 to *de Courcey Milne* discloses a platform (11) that is tiltable to both sides (18, 19) of the platform's longitudinal axis (15).
4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel F. Roland whose telephone number is (571) 270-5029. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (7:30-5:00) Alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Del Sole can be reached on (571) 272-1130. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Daniel F Roland/
Examiner, Art Unit 4123
/D. F. R./

November 28, 2007

/Joseph S. Del Sole/
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